



Photo courtesy of PATH – Peoples Advocacy for Trails Hawaii



Photo courtesy of County of Maui, Department of Public Works

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAYS DIVISION Safe Routes to School Program Overview

Updated: March 2017



Sources of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Funds Managed by DOT

- State SRTS Program Special Fund – Consists of SRTS program surcharges on violations. Effective September 1, 2012.
- Federal funds obtained under SAFETEA-LU – \$8 million in SRTS funding received from 2005 to September 30, 2012.



State SRTS Program Special Fund Overview



- Procedures established by Chapter 19-109, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), “Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund”.
- DOT distributes funds from the SRTS Program Special Fund to counties.
 - Half distributed evenly among counties.
 - Half distributed in proportion to the number of public school students in grades K-8 that live within walking distance from school.
- Each county designated a SRTS program coordinator.
- Each county developed a county-level SRTS program that includes a process to identify and implement SRTS projects.

State SRTS Program Special Fund Project Requirements

- Projects must target students in grades K-8.
- Projects must be consistent with SRTS goals.
- Funds can be used by DOT or counties for administrative costs.

SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds Overview



- SRTS shall fund qualified projects identified by schools and communities to encourage biking and walking to school.
- DOT solicits applications through a Call for Applications process.
- 100% federally funded
- **Reimbursable grant** program
Awardees must pay for expenses when they are incurred, and then submit for reimbursement.
- DOT role is as an oversight capacity and pass-through of federal funds only. Awardees are responsible for project implementation.

SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds Project Requirements

- Who can receive these funds?
 - State, local or regional agencies
 - Non-profit organizations
DOT requires non-profit organizations to partner with a government agency for infrastructure projects.
 - **Awardees must have experience managing similar projects, the ability to fulfill State and Federal requirements for the proposed project, and have funds readily available to front.**

SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds Project Requirements (continued)

- DOT is required to award 10 to 30 percent of SRTS funding to non-infrastructure activities, such as:
 - public awareness campaigns,
 - traffic education
 - enforcement in the vicinity of schools, and
 - student sessions on bicycle and pedestrian safety, health and environment.
- Projects must target students in grades K-8.
- Reimbursable expenses must be reasonable and necessary for the project.
- Non-infrastructure projects must be completed within two years from the effective date of a reimbursement agreement.

SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds Project Requirements (continued)

- Infrastructure projects must be within 2 miles of a primary school (grades K-8) and accessible to the public.
- For infrastructure projects, a cost estimate should be prepared by an engineer, licensed in the State of Hawaii with experience managing similar projects.
- Consultant firms that assist in preparing an application shall not be considered during the qualifications-based selection process to procure a professional services contract.

SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds Project Requirements (continued)

- Awardees must be able to meet all State and Federal requirements, including but not limited to:
 - environmental process
 - process to obtain right of way
 - obtaining appropriate permits
 - design requirements including ADA requirements
 - procurement of goods and services including design consultant services and conducting bidding for construction in accordance with the Federal Brooks Act and Hawaii procurement laws.
 - contract provisions
 - construction requirements

Examples of Inappropriate Uses of SRTS Funds

- Recurring costs such as paying crossing guard salaries or ongoing walking school bus programs
- Projects that reorganize pick-up and drop-off primarily for the convenience of drivers rather than to improve child safety and/or walking and bicycling access
- Education programs that are primarily focused on bus safety
- Improvements to bus stops

Remember the SRTS Goals

- Where it's safe, get kids walking and biking
- Where it's *not* safe, make changes

Future of the Hawaii SRTS SAFETEA-LU Funds

- Fifth round of call for applications is anticipated after SRTS workshops on all islands have been completed. If interested, sign up for e-mail list.
- Approximately \$2.5 million is anticipated to be available.
- Interested parties can begin now by contacting all stakeholders and putting together a SRTS plan.

For More Information

- Hawaii DOT Safe Routes to School Website
<http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/srts/>
- Contact Information:
Tara Lucas
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
State of Hawaii
Department of Transportation - Highways Division
Phone: 808-692-7696
E-mail: saferoutestoschool@hawaii.gov